

Chair's Report
Submitted by Councillor Wong-Tam to the
Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee
September 2, 2021

- **August 24: Flag Raising for the Canadian Paralympic Committee
Marking the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games**

On August 24, 2021, the City of Toronto raised the flag for the Canadian Paralympic Committee marking the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. By supporting Canadian high performance athletes with a disability and promoting their success, the Canadian Paralympic Committee inspires all Canadians with a disability to get involved in sport through programs delivered by its member organizations.

- **National DeafBlind Awareness Month**

During the month of June, we raised awareness of deafblindness, a sight and hearing impairment that affects people's communication, their ability to access information and their mobility.

Those living with deafblindness can access a number of services to assist in their daily lives. Intervenor who provide sensory information for those living with deafblindness along with dedicated support workers can provide the links needed in helping them live safely and independently.

The City of Toronto is committed to continuing their efforts in becoming an accessible city for everyone by working to identify, prevent and remove barriers to accessibility.

- **Response to COVID-19 - June and July 2021 Update**

On July 14, City Council received a report from the Medical Officer of Health providing an update on COVID-19 Response and Recovery, and an update from Black Scientists' Task Force on Vaccine Equity. Additionally, City Council voted to repeal of Bylaws 322-2020 and 323-2020, which regulated physical distancing in City of Toronto parks and public squares, as well as section 545-8.4.1 of Chapter 545, Licensing that implemented additional COVID-19 measures for food and drink establishments.

- **COVID-19 Recovery July 2021 Update**

On July 14, City Council authorized the City Manager and any relevant City divisions to execute any agreements, and receive funding from both the Provincial and Federal governments as necessary to support addressing COVID-19.

- **SafeTO: Toronto's Ten-Year Community Safety and Well-Being Plan**

On July 14, City Council adopted SafeTO: Toronto's Ten-Year Community Safety and Well-Being Plan and as part of the implementation to consider and incorporate healing-centred engagement and community practices as a complement to trauma-informed care, interventions and services so that it expands deficit-based treatment to include skill-building positive based treatment. This plan will be submitted to several ministries including the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility with a request to partner with the City of Toronto on the funding of the SafeTO Implementation Plan.

- **Update to the City of Toronto Corporate Accessibility Policy**

On June 8, City Council adopted the updated City of Toronto Corporate Accessibility Policy as identified in the Chair's Report from the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting on June 2, 2021.

- **2019-2022 Poverty Reduction Strategy Action Plan Mid-Term Status**

On June 8, City Council received an interim report on the 2019-2022 Poverty Reduction Strategy Action Plan which required a review to improve access to the Fair Pass Program and to expedite any ongoing work, including in-person registration in accordance with applicable public health guidelines; expediting the extension of the Fair Pass Program to residents who already receive other means-tested supports (ex. Rent-geared-to-income housing), and mailing programmed, validated PRESTO cards to facilitate and ensure access. A report back to The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee on the results of this review is expected by the fourth quarter of 2021.

- **King-Spadina Public Realm Strategy**

On July 14, City Council adopted the King-Spadina Public Realm Strategy designed to promote safe, accessible and lively spaces for all, including persons who live with disabilities. This strategy includes parks, and accessible open spaces; key vistas; streetscape improvements and mid-block connection opportunities.